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## ***Burial and Plot-Interment Allowances***

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### **What Is A VA Burial Allowance ?**

A VA burial allowance is a partial reimbursement of an eligible veteran's burial and funeral costs. When the cause of death is not service-related, the reimbursement is generally described as two payments: (1) a burial and funeral expense allowance, and (2) a plot interment allowance.

### **Who Is Eligible ?**

#### ***You may be eligible for a VA burial allowance if:***

- ✧ you paid for a veteran's burial or funeral **AND**
- ✧ you have not been reimbursed by another government agency or some other source, such as the deceased veteran's employer **AND**
- ✧ the veteran was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

#### ***In addition, at least one of the following conditions must be met:***

- ✧ the veteran died because of a service-related disability **OR**
- ✧ the veteran was receiving VA pension or compensation at the time of death **OR**
- ✧ the veteran was entitled to receive VA pension or compensation but decided not to reduce his/her military retirement or disability pay **OR**
- ✧ the veteran died in a VA hospital or while in a nursing home under VA contract, or while in an approved state nursing home.

### **How Much Does VA Pay ?**

***Service-Related Death.*** VA will pay up to \$1,500 toward burial expenses for deaths prior to September 10, 2001. For deaths on or after September 11, 2001, VA will pay \$2,000. If the veteran is buried in a VA national cemetery, some or all of the cost of moving the deceased may be reimbursed.

***Nonservice-Related Death.*** VA will pay up to \$300 toward burial and funeral expenses, and a \$150 plot interment allowance for deaths prior to December 1, 2001. The plot-interment allowance is \$300 for deaths on or after December 1, 2001. If the death happened while the veteran was in a VA hospital or under contracted nursing home care, some or all of the costs for transporting the deceased's remains may be reimbursed.

### **How Can You Apply ?**

You can apply by filling out VA Form 21-530, Application for Burial Allowance. You should attach proof of the veteran's military service (DD 214), a death certificate, and copies of funeral and burial bills you have paid.

### **Related Benefits**

Burial in VA National Cemeteries

Headstones and Markers

Presidential Memorial Certificates

Burial Flags

**For More Information Call Toll-Free 1-800-827-1000  
Or Visit Our Web Site At <http://www.cem.va.gov>**

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